

I recently read about the cell phone surcharge issue that is coming up for discussion. I wanted to present a consumers view of this tactic. As you may guess, I am opposed to this method phone companies are using to recover their costs. First, it is not my responsibility to pay for the phone companies cost of doing business. They are responsible for their own costs. No other business blatantly charges consumers for their own operating costs. Most companies include an amount in their regular fees to cover most fixed and variable costs. I would imagine that the phone companies have already done this in the toll and long distance fees that they charge the consumer. Now, the consumer is expected to pay an extra fee to reimburse for costs we are already paying for, costs that are not really our responsibility anyway. Please do not permit the phone companies to take this action. As it is, my bills are riddled with extra fees and surcharges that change and often increase every month. Isn't it time the consumer stop paying for the same costs over and over? When do we get some relief?

Thank you,  
M. Steinfeld